

Remarks

Entry of the above-noted amendments, reconsideration of the application, and allowance of all claims pending are respectfully requested. These amendments to the claims constitute a bona fide attempt by applicants to advance prosecution of the application and obtain allowance of certain claims, and are in no way meant to acquiesce to the substance of the rejections. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, e.g. page 16, 2nd paragraph, and in the previously presented claims. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 11-12, 15-17, 21-22, 25 and 26 are pending.

Claim Objections:

Claim 5 was objected to based on a specified informality which is overcome by amending the claim as suggested by the Examiner.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112:

The recommendations for amendment associated with the rejection of claims 2, 6, 12 and 16 have been implemented. Therefore, these rejections are overcome.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 102 and/or 103:

All pending claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 and/or 103 as being anticipated/rendered obvious by Archer (U.S. Patent No. 6,683,870). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102. The communication system of claim 1 includes first and second phones having a shared call appearance. It is believed that a "shared call appearance" is well understood in the telecommunication field as meaning phones that share a common address, i.e. typically a common telephone number. For example, normal analog first and second telephones in a home connected to the same line will share a common call appearance, e.g. each receives incoming calls directed to the same telephone number and place outgoing calls that have the same calling party identification. Thus, claim 1 as presented before

the current amendment is believed to not be anticipated by Archer. However, to further clarify the meaning of shared call appearance, claim 1 is amended to define shared call appearances of the first and second phones as meaning the second phone serves as an electronic implementation of an extension phone of the first phone.

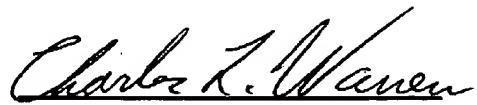
The Office Action interpreted a shared call appearance as required in claim 1 as being satisfied by a simultaneous multicast of calls to a plurality of different telephone numbers; citing Archer col. 4, lines 42-51 and col. 8, line 50 – col. 9, line 61. The first cited text section describes multicasting IP packets designed to simultaneously ring “all of the telephone numbers” on a list. Thus, it is clear that such telephones do not share a common call appearance, i.e. each has a different telephone number and must be called separately to achieve ringing at each. The latter cited text section describes a “follow me” process in which a server performs a database lookup “for the called party’s designated destination numbers” that are stored on a list; each of the numbers on the list being called in an attempt to reach a subscriber at different locations. Again, this does not teach or suggest shared call appearances. Therefore, claim 1 is not anticipated by the teachings of Archer.

Independent claims 11, 21 and 25 (all of the other independent claims) are each believed to be allowable for similar reasons discussed for claim 1. All of the dependent claims should be allowable as depending from an allowable parent claim. Therefore, it is believed that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

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Allowance of all claims pending is respectfully requested. If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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